

STATEWIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY

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I. POLICY

It is the policy of the Field Enforcement Division to severely limit extra-jurisdictional enforcement authority to those circumstances as defined in Section III of this Chapter.

II. BACKGROUND

Maryland Code, Criminal Procedure, Section 2-102 grants limited statewide jurisdiction to law enforcement officers. This directive explains the circumstances under which agents may conduct criminal investigations and make arrests outside of the Field Enforcement Division's (FED) jurisdiction, and the actions they must take as a result.

III. AUTHORITY FOR EXTRA - JURISDICTIONAL ENFORCEMENT

Law enforcement officers of the Comptroller's Office may make warrantless arrests and conduct criminal investigations anywhere in the State of Maryland when the officer/agent is acting in accordance with these regulations at least one of the following conditions exists:

- A. When participating in a joint investigation with officials from other state, local or federal law enforcement agencies, at least one of which has local jurisdiction;
- B. While rendering assistance to another police officer;
- C. While acting at the request of a local or State Police officer; or
- D. When an emergency exists.

For the purposes of extra-jurisdictional enforcement, an emergency is defined as "a sudden or unexpected happening or unforeseen combination of circumstances that calls for immediate action to protect the health, safety, welfare or property of a person from harm or an unlawful act".

The law specifically **prohibits** officers/agents from enforcing provisions of the Maryland Vehicle Law beyond their sworn jurisdiction.

IV. CANCELLATION: None.

Jeffrey A. Kelly, Director